Murray, A.B., and Morrison, B.J., "The Decrease in Severity of Asthma in Children of Parents who Smoke Since the Parents Have Been Exposing Them to Less Cigarette Smoke," Clin Immunol 91: 102-110, 1993.

The authors studied every child with asthma between the ages of 1 and 17 years who had been referred to the allergy clinic at the Children's Hospital in Vancouver, British Columbia, between November 1, 1983, and June 30, 1990. Interviews were conducted with the accompanying adult. Skin prick tests were performed on the children, along with forced expiratory spirograms (in children 6 years of age or older). A bronchial challenge test was performed on children 7 years of age or older. The authors reported that although the actual number of cigarettes had not appeared to change, the number of cigarettes smoked in the same room as the child had decreased markedly. The authors report that "concurrent with the diminished exposure to smoke a decrease in the severity of asthma in children of smokers is shown by a significant decrease in the asthma score and a marked increase in the FEV1% and FEF25% to 75%." The authors conclude that "it appears that if parents are aware that smoke will aggravate their child's asthma, the child will be exposed to fewer cigarettes, and the asthma will be less severe."

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